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Dun & Bradstreet

BB a company of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation

Business Economics Division

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Monthly Bank Clearings

H-23 No. 12

BANK CLEARINGS RISE IN DECEMBER
BRING 1981 TOTAL TO NEW ANNUAL RECORD

NEW YORK, February 26--Dun & Bradstreet reports that check transactions in twenty-six leading centers rose 3.1 per cent to $4,573,729,526,000 in December, a volume exceeded only once, in July 1981, when clearings ran over $4,628 billion. Up from the $4,434,178,146,000 cleared in the prior month, check activity continued to advance over a year earlier with a 17.5 per cent increase over the comparable 1980 month when clearings reached $3,893,508,997,000.

In New York, December checks processed rose to $4,290,908,688,000, a 2.7 per cent increase over November's $4,180,074,905,000, and held an 18.8 per cent lead over the $3,613,261,567,000 cleared in the comparable month of 1980.

In the twenty-five centers outside of New York, a healthy rebound prevailed as their banks cleared $282,820,838,000, an 11.3 per cent gain from November's six-month low of $254,103,241,000. But turnover in the twenty-five cities kept only a fractional 0.9 per cent ahead of the $280,247,430,000 pace a year earlier. Richmond and Houston registered substantial advances over December 1980 while eleven cities lagged behind their performance in the prior year.

The cumulative volume of checks processed during the twelve months of 1981 reached an all-time record of $51,447,859,281,000, an impressive 17.7 per cent gain over the volume of $43,707,314,637,000[R] cleared in the calendar year 1980. This climb was noteworthy in view of mixed regional trends. Robust increases over the prior year were evidenced in Buffalo, Seattle, Houston and New York. In contrast, eight centers showed decreases ranging from 8.7 to 0.2 per cent less than 1980's performance.

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(Statistical tables enclosed.)

2. MONTHLY BANK CLEARING REPORT
from Business Economics Division of Dun & Bradstreet, Inc.

Monthly Comparisons of Bank Clearings by Cities
(in thousands of dollars)

	December 1981	December 1980	% Change	November 1981
Boston	$ 18,593,137	$ 16,641,331	+ 11.7	$ 16,262,844
Philadelphia	8,744,032	8,156,173	+ 7.2	7,629,968
Buffalo	9,232,236	7,895,810	+ 16.9	8,935,768
Pittsburgh	12,122,292	12,572,475	- 3.6	10,816,547
Cleveland	7,596,233	7,881,858	- 3.6	6,874,542
Cincinnati	5,044,207	5,273,090	- 4.3	4,694,748
Baltimore	5,824,747	6,031,565	- 3.4	5,372,174
Richmond	3,225,682	2,572,545	+ 25.4	2,658,330
Atlanta	19,524,140	17,636,748	+ 10.7	17,224,478
New Orleans	4,682,274	4,415,856	+ 6.0	4,208,105
Memphis	2,642,785	2,664,716	- 0.8	2,371,650
Chicago	24,083,905	25,367,508	- 5.1	21,430,733
Detroit	11,034,996	16,488,713	- 33.1	9,689,420
St. Louis	5,674,393	5,914,583	- 4.1	5,178,961
Louisville	3,381,869	3,505,019	- 3.5	3,225,674
Minneapolis	9,946,924	9,163,671	+ 8.5	8,389,388
Kansas City	8,223,911	7,611,101	+ 8.1	7,092,154
Omaha	3,164,667	2,843,135	+ 11.3	2,772,245
Denver	8,279,281	7,432,672	+ 11.4	7,551,949
Dallas	16,960,902	14,567,953	+ 16.4	14,882,955
Houston	24,120,817	20,071,376	+ 20.2	19,665,974
Los Angeles	33,166,999	38,171,369	- 13.1	33,097,024
San Francisco	26,820,675	28,085,634	- 4.5	24,024,368
Portland, Ore	3,876,354	4,626,654	- 16.2	3,730,645
Seattle	6,853,380	4,655,875	+ 47.2	6,322,597
Total 25 Cities	$ 282,820,838	$ 280,247,430	+ 0.9	$ 254,103,241
New York	4,290,908,688	3,613,261,567	+ 18.8	4,180,074,905
Total 26 Cities	$ 4,573,729,526	$ 3,893,508,997	+ 17.5	$ 4,434,178,146

*Revised

3. MONTHLY BANK CLEARING REPORT

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS--MONTHLY--1978 TO DATE
(Millions of Dollars)

TOTAL 26 UNITED STATES CITIES

	1981	1980	1979	1978
January.....	$ 4,048,656	$ 3,408,938	$ 2,543,050	$ 2,013,134
February.....	3,780,417	3,183,684	2,201,345	1,775,795
March.....	4,351,886	3,701,171	2,504,606	2,058,677
April.....	3,996,219	3,473,593	2,492,572	1,960,358
May.....	3,949,348	3,472,386	2,587,251	2,040,861
June.....	4,415,337	3,549,986	2,793,474	2,259,707
July.....	4,628,939	3,842,801	2,942,097	2,125,083
August.....	4,302,856	3,598,173	2,913,636	2,360,434
September.....	4,400,437	3,809,302	2,815,084	2,190,671
October.....	4,565,856	4,273,411	3,418,621	2,474,177
November.....	4,434,178	3,500,359	2,943,807	2,330,595
December.....	4,573,730	3,893,509	2,836,760	2,173,252
Total.....	$ 51,447,859	$ 43,707,313	$ 32,992,293	$ 25,752,744

NEW YORK CITY

January.....	$ 3,790,644	$ 3,143,672	$ 2,290,061	$ 1,799,114
February.....	3,550,702	2,946,406	1,993,265	1,590,570
March.....	4,079,325	3,446,343	2,258,141	1,834,380
April.....	3,717,162	3,208,394	2,245,252	1,744,950
May.....	3,696,238	3,231,368	2,330,772	1,807,522
June.....	4,131,421	3,305,377	2,551,498	2,022,635
July.....	4,346,966	3,582,275	2,690,698	1,896,976
August.....	4,039,077	3,360,502	2,663,808	2,121,925
September.....	4,125,634	3,555,766	2,583,063	1,972,098
October.....	4,300,033	4,000,977	3,244,077	2,237,182
November.....	4,180,075	3,267,920	2,703,563	2,103,630
December.....	4,290,909	3,613,262	2,592,912	1,940,964
Total.....	$ 48,248,186	$ 40,662,262	$ 30,047,110	$ 23,070,946

TOTAL 25 CITIES EXCLUDING NEW YORK CITY

January.....	$ 258,012	$ 265,266	$ 252,989	$ 214,020
February.....	229,715	237,278	208,080	185,225
March.....	272,561	254,828	246,465	224,297
April.....	279,057	265,199	247,320	215,408
May.....	253,110	241,018	256,479	233,339
June.....	283,916	244,609	241,976	237,072
July.....	281,973	260,526	251,399	218,107
August.....	263,779	237,671	249,828	238,509
September.....	274,803	253,536	232,021	219,573
October.....	265,823	272,434	274,544	236,995
November.....	254,103	232,439	240,244	226,965
December.....	282,821	280,247	243,838	232,288
Total.....	$ 3,199,673	$ 3,045,051	$ 2,945,183	$ 2,681,798

*Revised

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